



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISHING VESSEL LANDINGS AT SEATTLE IN MARCH

During March, the United States halibut fleet landed 764,000 pounds of fishery products, worth \$532,000. at Seattle, as the result of 77 trips to North Pacific grounds, according to monthly summary figures released today by the Seattle Fishery Market News office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

Compared with March 1941, when a total of 302,000 pounds was landed, valued at \$23,000, the 1942 figures represent an increase in volume of 462,000 pounds, and an increase in value of \$509,000. The bulk of this great increase, both in catch and value is, of course, again directly because of the boom in dogfish and soupfin shark livers.

Species landed in March of this year included 17,000 pounds of sablefish, valued at \$2100, 371,000 pounds of "lingcod", valued at \$30,000; and 90,000 pounds of rockfishes, valued at \$7,500. In addition, however, there were 286,000 pounds of fish livers landed at Seattle with a value of \$492,000.

For the three months of 1942, halibut fleet landings at Seattle totaled 1,872,000 pounds, valued at \$1,176,000. For the same period in 1941, landings amounted to 847,000 pounds worth \$63,000.

Miscellaneous local receipts, by Seattle wholesale dealers, exclusive of the halibut fleet and fish received from Alaska and Canada, totaled 1,511,000 pounds, valued at \$664,000, divided among 27 classifications. Compared with 1,589,000 pounds, valued at \$117,000, received during March 1941, this represents a decrease of 78,000 pounds, or 5 percent, in volume, and an increase of about \$547,000 or 468 percent, in value. The latter increase is again due largely to the newly developed fishery for soupfin sharks and dogfish and the high prices paid for their livers.

Pacific coast cold storage figures for halibut and salmon as reported by 20 warehouses in Washington, Alaska, and British Columbia, indicate 2,066,000 pounds (as of the period from March 1 to 31) moved, and 3,311,000 pounds in holdings as of April 1.

Additional receipts by Seattle wholesale dealers show a total, for fresh and frozen fish and shellfish, of 932,000 pounds for 1942, as against 1,636,000 pounds in March of last year, a 43 percent decrease. Totals for the first three months of each year are at approximately 3.7 and 4.4 million pounds, for 1942 and 1941, respectively.

Average fishermen's prices and price ranges, as paid in Seattle, are also listed in the reports.